GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Performance on World Tourism Index
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the latest UNWTO Barometer, India has improved its performance on the World Tourism Index and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether Tourist arrival data, 2016 has been compiled by the Market Research Division of his Ministry recently and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether there is any increase in visit of foreign and domestic tourists in the country in the year 2016 and if so, the details thereof;
(d) the details of top 10 popular destinations in 2016 for domestic and foreign tourists, State/UT-wise; and
(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost tourism in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): Yes, Madam.

As per the UNWTO Barometer of March 2017, India has improved its rank in International Tourist Arrivals (ITAs) to 24 in 2015.

India has also improved its ranking significantly in Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index prepared by World Economic Forum to 40th in 2017 from 52nd in 2015 and 65th in 2013.

(b): Yes, Madam. The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs), Arrivals of NRIs and International Tourist Arrivals in India during 2016 were 8.80 million, 5.77 million and 14.57 million, respectively.

(c): Yes, Madam. The number of Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits to different States/UTs in 2016 (provisional) were 161.4 crore and 2.5 crore, registering a growth of 12.7% and 5.9% in 2016 over 2015 respectively.

(d): Information on popular destinations in States/UTs in not available. However, information on the top 10 States in terms of Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits in 2016 is given in the Annexure.

(e): The initiatives taken by the Government in order to boost tourism in the country are as below:

i. Providing Central Financial Assistance to States/UTs for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism.
ii. Promotion of India as a holistic destination in the international markets under the Incredible India brand line.
iii. Introduction of e-Visa facility for the citizens of 162 countries.
iv. Promotion of Niche Tourism products including Medical and Wellness.
v. Launch of 24X7 Toll Free Multi-Lingual Tourist Infoline in 12 languages.
vi. Distribution of 'Welcome Booklet', with information on Do's and Don'ts and containing other important contact details, to tourists arriving at international airports.

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